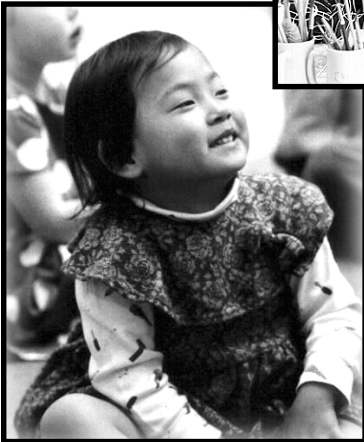


Seattle Human Services Department

finding and funding solutions for human needs so low-income, vulnerable people in greater Seattle can live and thrive



What is a “Strategic Investment Plan”?

The *Strategic Investment Plan* will describe how the Human Services Department invests its money and will invest in the future. It will describe what we invest in, why we do it, what we accomplish, and how much it costs.

Why is an investment plan important?

State and federal governments are stepping away from their commitment to human services, and the city must bear the impact of their reduced commitments. HSD needs to use its limited resources wisely.

What will the Strategic Investment Plan do?

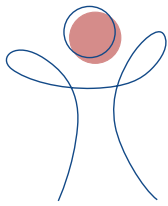
The Strategic Investment Plan will optimize the city’s human services investments across two key objectives: *preserving the safety net* — programs that help people maintain independence and stabilize crisis; and *investing in economic self-sufficiency* — programs that support participation in the job market and prevent crises from happening in the first place.

How will the Strategic Investment Plan be developed?

The Human Services Department will take the following steps to develop a strong Strategic Investment Plan:

- **analyze our current budget** to see how it aligns with our goals and objectives (February/March)
- **talk with the community** – funders, community leaders, clients, residents, and community-based organizations – about our goals, our policies, and strategies to guide our future investments (March - May)
- **analyze and develop solutions** to the current funding crisis by working with others to secure long-term funding for human services (May)
- **make recommendations** to our elected officials about how to effectively use resources (June/July)
- **evaluate our programs** and services to see if they’re meeting objectives and producing the expected results (ongoing)

STRATEGIC INVESTMENT PLAN



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goals

The City of Seattle invests in people so that all families and individuals can meet their basic needs, share in our economic prosperity, and participate in building a safe, healthy, educated, just and caring community. The City of Seattle, King County, and United Way have adopted a set of community goals to guide our investments. We believe that all our residents need:

- ☐ Food to Eat and a Roof Overhead
- ☐ Supportive Relationships within Families, Neighborhoods and Communities
- ☐ A Safe Haven from all Forms of Violence and Abuse
- ☐ Health Care to be as Physically and Mentally Fit as Possible
- ☐ The Education and Job Skills to Lead an Independent Life

In addition, HSD invests in improving human service systems and infrastructure, supporting all five community goals. HSD strives to optimize the city's human services investments across two objectives: investing in economic self-sufficiency and preserving the safety net.

divisions

Aging and Disability Services serve older people and adults with disabilities through a support network that improves choice, promotes independence, and enhances quality of life for our residents. ADS is the assigned Area Agency on Aging for the Seattle-King County region and administers the Mayor's Office for Senior Citizens.

Community Services provide program development, homelessness intervention, and prevention services to low-income and homeless people so that they can become self-sufficient; they also provide facility renovation to community-based organizations.

Family and Youth Services build and maintain quality support systems for children, youth, and families so that they develop to their utmost potential and more fully benefit from and contribute to the community.

The **Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention Office** provides leadership and direction to city government to prevent violence against women and children.

major initiatives

Help for Working Families provides comprehensive, easy access to multiple public benefits, including low-cost health insurance, child care subsidies, food programs, utility rate assistance, and the Earned Income Tax Credit.

Children and Youth Strategy programs improve school readiness and academic success; build strong community and neighborhood support for children, youth, and families; provide safe environments and activities; and improve the health status of children and youth.

The Racial Justice Initiative seeks to undo racism by identifying and ending practices and policies within our own institutions that afford privilege to whites over people of color.

Programs to End Homelessness include emergency shelter, permanent housing for special needs populations, Safe Harbors (an information management system), and the Committee to End Homelessness, a countywide partnership.